

The Scottish Government
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18 November 2024

Our ref: LT383
Your ref: ECU00005167

Dear Sir/Madam,

Application for consent under Section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 to upgrade approximately 14 kilometres (km) of an existing 275 kilovolts (kV) overhead line (OHL), between Alyth Substation and Tower 685 north-west of Tealing Substation, to enable operation at 400 kV (“the Proposed Development”).

This application for the Alyth to Tealing Overhead Line 400kV Upgrade is being submitted by Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc (the Applicant) who, operating and known as Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission (SSEN Transmission), own, operate and develop the high voltage electricity transmission system in the north of Scotland and remote islands. It holds a licence under the Electricity Act 1989 to develop and maintain an efficient, co-ordinated and economical system of electricity transmission.

The Proposal

The application seeks consent under Section 37 of the 1989 Act to upgrade approximately 14 km of an existing 275 kV OHL, between Alyth Substation and Tower 685 north-west of Tealing Substation, to enable operation at 400 kV (“the Proposed Development”).

The Proposed Development would include the following elements, for which Section 37 consent and deemed planning consent under Section 57 (2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended, is sought:

- Replacement of conductors, insulators and fittings on the existing steel lattice towers;
- Where required, tower condition works including steelwork and tower leg foundation work to strengthen the existing steel lattice towers;
- The sag of new proposed phase conductor will be matched with sag of existing Optical Ground Wire (OPGW); and
- Subject to further engineering and design checks, some modifications to the existing towers may be required, such as the inverting of cross arms to improve clearances, and changes to the insulator set configurations.

The Applicant is also seeking deemed planning permission under section 57(2) of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 for certain elements of the project, or ancillary works required to facilitate its construction and operation. These ancillary works will include:

- Vegetation clearance;
- Access track construction and access track upgrades;
- Temporary site compounds, laydown areas and crane pads;
- Equipotential zones (EPZs) and temporary measures to protect road, rail and water crossings; and
- The increase in operating voltage of the OHL requires a wider wayleave corridor, therefore some tree felling will be required where there are infringements to this corridor.

A full project description is available within Volume 2, Chapter 3 of the EIA Report.

Land Rights

The Applicant is in discussions with Landowners and Tenants affected by the Proposed Development. At the time of writing, it is understood that 23 wayleaves are required of which one wayleave is outstanding.

Application Details

The following documents have been submitted in support of this application:

- Planning Statement.
- Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report.
- Socio Economic Assessment.
- Electric and Magnetic Field (EMF) Study.
- Detailed Maps of the Proposed Development including the site location, proposed works, access tracks and further detailed maps on specific aspects of the EIA report.
- EIA Report with associated Technical Appendices and Figures.
- Non-Technical Summary.
- A separate Schedule of Mitigation
- Consultee List.

Consultation

A Consultee List has been submitted with this application. This identifies statutory and non-statutory consultees that SSEN has identified, to be contacted by the ECU to request a formal representation. The content of this list has already been agreed with the ECU.

Section 37 Press Notice

A draft notice has been issued to the ECU Case Officer for agreement prior to printing. The papers listed below would be used to publish the Section 37 Notice for the Proposed Development.

- Edinburgh Gazette
- Perthshire Advertiser
- Dundee Courier

The above addresses the minimum requirement to publish the advert in one or more newspapers circulating in the locality of The Proposed Development (for two consecutive weeks) and in the Edinburgh Gazette (for one week).

The date of publication of the notices will be agreed in advance with the ECU.

Confidential Information

The Applicant will submit all confidential information directly to the ECU Case Officer via email and

has not uploaded any confidential information to the online portal. We will also contact NatureScot, RSPB, Angus Council and Perth and Kinross Council regarding how they wish to receive the confidential information.

Payment

An application fee of £25,200 has been paid to the ECU.

Next Steps

We trust that the submission is complete and look forward to confirmation of receipt and validation. Should you have any queries or require further information please contact me on the details above. Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Yours sincerely

Albert Muckley

Consents & Environment Manager
Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks Transmission